

Message Text

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15

ACTION OES-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 PM-03 IO-03 DODE-00 INR-05

CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 SP-02 INRE-00 ACDA-10

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O R 220734Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3982

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 3311

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, VS

SUBJECT: VIET-NAM RESEARCH REACTOR SECURITY

REF: A) SAIGON 3267; B) STATE 65363 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL A SUBSTANTIALLY RESPONDS TO QUESTIONS POSED REFTEL B. FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS ALSO PROVIDED: PROFESSOR LONG (IN CHARGE OF THE DALAT REACTOR) BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BE VERY TRICKY TO TRY TO DISMANTLE THE REACTOR BECAUSE THIS WOULD REQUIRE SPECIAL HEAVY CEMENT CONTAINERS FOR EACH OF THE 70 RODS. THIS WOULD REQUIRE SPECIALIZED PERSONNEL, AND AIR EVACUATION OF THE RODS WOULD TIE UP SCARCE VNAF ASSETS. (BECAUSE THE REACTOR WALLS ARE EIGHT FOOT THICK CONCRETE IT TAKES SPECIAL SKILLS AND TOOLS TO GET AT THE RODS.)

2. NOT HAVING PARTICULARS OF 1969 AIR FORCE PLAN AVAILABLE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING JUST HOW MUCH TIME WOULD BE REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT PLAN FOR US TEAM USING US AIRCRAFT TO REMOVE FUEL ELEMENTS FROM REACTOR AND TRANSPORT THEM TO MORE SECURE LOCATION. IF REQUIRED, WE WOULD WELCOME EXPERT VISIT TO HELP IN MAKING
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THAT DETERMINATION.

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